

Council Chair Name
Council Chair Address

Dear Chair Name:

I am pleased to invite you to the May 4 - 7, 2009, Sanctuary Advisory Council Summit at the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center in Alpena, Michigan. The Council gatherings have been formerly known as the "Council Chairs and Coordinators Meetings," but since we are in our eighth year of convening major national meetings, bringing together our collective experiences and wisdom on advisory councils, we have graduated to the status of holding a "Summit." I want to thank you for your passionate and steadfast work that has helped us achieve our much-deserved growing prominence.

Enclosed you will find the draft agenda and case study guidelines for the Summit for your review. These have been provided to your sanctuary superintendent and council coordinator as well. Please work with them to provide the following to Karen Brubeck, National Sanctuary Advisory Council Coordinator, by Dec. 31, 2008:

- ❖ Input on the draft Sanctuary Advisory Council Summit agenda.
- ❖ An abstract of the case study if your council is interested in presenting a case study for review and consideration by the Agenda Working Group.
- ❖ Input on the concept of the National Choreography of Council Chairs, as described in my July 25 letter.

If possible, the full council should review and discuss both documents before the deadline. However, if you do not have a scheduled council meeting before then, please brief your council at the next opportunity.

The meeting in Newport News was very open and candid, and I anticipate that this meeting will be as productive and fruitful. You are welcome to read a statement from your council, but other than that the discussions are of an individual nature. Please contact Karen (206-842-6084 or karen.brubeck@noaa.gov) with Summit questions. She will provide the final agenda and meeting and travel logistics in February.

I look forward to seeing you in Alpena!

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Basta
Director,
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

Cc: Regional Directors
Sanctuary Superintendents
Sanctuary Advisory Council Coordinators